

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-89. (Canceled)

90. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing and screening an array of metal-ligand compositions comprising:

preparing an array of metal-ligand compositions in a plurality of discrete reaction vessels contained by or within an integrated structure, wherein the plurality of reaction vessels of the array contain different metal-ligand compositions and said preparing comprises delivering a metal-binding ligand and a dissolved, soluble metal precursor to each of the plurality of reaction vessels of the array which combine to form the metal-ligand composition, wherein said soluble metal precursor comprises a solublizing ligand and formation of one or more of the metal-ligand compositions is accompanied by the displacement of said solublizing ligand;

delivering a polymerization monomer to the metal-ligand compositions in the plurality of reaction vessels of the integrated structure to prepare an array of polymerization mixtures therein, wherein one or more of said polymerization mixtures contains **[[a]]** the displaced solublizing ligand resulting from the preparation of said metal-ligand compositions;

subjecting the array of polymerization mixtures in the integrated structure to conditions conducive to the formation of a polymerization reaction product; and

screening said array for a polymerization reaction product,

wherein the displaced solublizing ligand reduces the catalytic activity of the metal-ligand composition in the polymerization mixture in the polymerization reaction by less than about 80%.

91. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 90 wherein the displaced solublizing ligand reduces the catalytic activity of the metal-ligand composition by less than about 50%.

92. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 90 wherein the metal-binding ligand is not bound to a solid material.

93. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 92 wherein the metal-binding ligand is delivered to the plurality of discrete reaction vessels after the soluble metal precursor.

94. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 92 wherein the soluble metal precursor is delivered to the plurality of discrete reaction vessels after the metal-binding ligand.

95. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 90 wherein the soluble metal precursor has a formula MR_n , wherein M is a transition metal, a lanthanide metal, an actinide metal, an alkali metal, an alkaline earth metal or a main group metal, R is a solublizing ligand, and n ranges from about 1 to about 8.

96. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 90 wherein the soluble metal precursor has a formula MR_nL_m , wherein M is a transition metal, a lanthanide metal, an actinide metal, an alkali metal, an alkaline earth metal or a main group metal, R is a solublizing ligand, L is a neutral solublizing ligand, n ranges from about 0 to about 8, and m ranges from about 0 to about 6, provided the sum of $n + m$ is at least 1.

97. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 90 wherein the soluble metal precursor has a formula $M_pR_n'L_{m'}$, wherein M is a transition metal, a lanthanide metal, an actinide metal, an alkali metal, an alkaline earth metal or a main group metal, R is a solublizing ligand, L is a neutral solublizing ligand, p is greater than 1, n' and m' are each independently a number greater than 0, provided the sum of $n' + m'$ is at least 2.

98. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 90 wherein the soluble metal precursor comprises a metal selected from Sc, Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Y, Zr, Nb, Mo, Ru, Rh, Pd, Ag, Cd, La, Hf, Ta, W, Re, Os, Ir, Pt, Au, Hg, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu, U, Th, B, Al, Ga, Tl, In, Li, Na, K, Rb, Cs, Be, Mg, Ca, Sr, Ba, Ge, Sn, Pb, Sb, Bi or a combination thereof.

99. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 98 wherein the soluble metal precursor comprises one or more solubilizing ligands independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkenyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, alkoxy, aryloxy, hydroxy, boryl, silyl, hydride, thio, oxo, imido, sulfido, seleno, phosphino, amino, carboxylate, 1,3-dionate, oxalate, carbonate, nitrate, sulfate, perchlorate, sulfonate, phosphonate and combinations thereof.

100. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 90 wherein, prior to subjecting the array of polymerization mixtures to conditions conducive to the formation of a polymerization reaction product, a monomer and an activator are delivered to at least one of the polymerization mixtures in the array, the monomer being delivered before the activator.

101. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 90 wherein, prior to subjecting the array of polymerization mixtures to conditions conducive to the formation of a polymerization reaction product, a monomer and an activator are delivered to at least one of the polymerization mixtures in the array, the monomer being delivered after the activator.

102. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 90 wherein each metal-binding ligand has a coordination number (CN) which is greater than the absolute value of its respective charge.

103. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 90 wherein each metal-binding ligand has a coordination number (CN) which is less than the absolute value of its respective charge.

104. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 90 wherein the soluble metal precursor has the formula MR_nL_m , wherein M is a transition metal, a lanthanide metal, an actinide metal, an alkali metal, an alkaline earth metal or a main group metal, R is a solublizing ligand, L is a neutral solublizing ligand, n ranges from about 0 to about 8, and m ranges from about 0 to about 6, provided the sum of $n + m$ is at least 1, and further wherein said soluble metal precursor is negatively charged, and the metal precursor solution additionally comprising a counter cation.

105. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 90 wherein the soluble metal precursor has the formula LnR_3 , wherein R is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, alkoxy, aryloxy, hydroxy, boryl, silyl, hydride, thio, seleno, phosphino, amino, carboxylate, dionate, oxalate, carbonate, nitrate, sulfate, perchlorate, sulfonate, phosphonate and combinations thereof, and wherein Ln is selected from the group consisting of La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu or a combination thereof.

106. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 90 wherein the soluble metal precursor comprises more than one solublizing ligand, each being the same.

107. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 106 wherein the solublizing ligand is selected from the group consisting of halo, hydride, substituted or

unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroalkyl, alkoxy, aryloxy, dionate, carboxylate and amino.

108. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 90 wherein the soluble metal precursor has the formula MR_nL_m , wherein M is a transition metal, R is a solublizing ligand, L is a neutral solublizing ligand, n ranges from about 0 to 7, m ranges from about 1 to 6, and $n+m$ ranges from about 1 to 7.

109. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 90 wherein the soluble metal precursor has the formula MR_nL_m , wherein M is a lanthanide metal, R is a solublizing ligand, L is a neutral solublizing ligand, n ranges from about 0 to 7, m ranges from about 1 to 6, and $n+m$ ranges from about 1 to about 9.

110. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 90 wherein the soluble metal precursor has the formula $M_pR_nL_{m'}$, wherein M is a transition metal, R is a solublizing ligand, L is a neutral solublizing ligand, p is at least about 2, n' ranges from 0 to 7, m' ranges from 1 to 6, and $n'+m'$ ranges from about 2 to about 7.

111. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 90 wherein the soluble metal precursor has the formula $M_pR_nL_{m'}$, wherein M is a lanthanide metal, R is a solublizing ligand, L is a neutral solublizing ligand, p is at least about 2, n' ranges from 0 to 7, m' ranges from 1 to 6, and $n'+m'$ ranges from about 2 to about 9.

112. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 90 wherein the soluble metal precursor comprises one or more neutral solublizing ligands, L, independently selected from the group consisting of carbon monoxide, isocyanide, nitrous oxide, alkyl nitrile, aryl nitrile, PX_3 , NX_3 , OX_2 , SX_2 , SeX_2 , OPX_3 , ONX_3 , SPX_3 , OSX_2 , $OSOX_2$, X_2N-NX_2 , $XS-SX$, $XO-OX$, η^6 -arene, olefin, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl and combinations thereof, wherein each X is independently selected from the group consisting of substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted

heteroalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, silyl and combinations thereof.

113. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 90 wherein prior to subjecting the array of polymerization mixtures to conditions conducive to the formation of a polymerization reaction product, one or more of the polymerization mixtures is activated.

114. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 113 wherein activation is achieved by the addition of one or more activators independently selected from the group consisting of methylalumoxane, trialkylaluminum, dialkylaluminumhydride, diethylaluminummethoxide, diethylaluminumchloride, dibutylmagnesium, dialkylzinc, trialkylboron, AgBF_4 , AgBPh_4 , NaBAr_4 , AgBAr_4 , $[\text{H}(\text{OEt}_2)]^+[\text{BAr}_4]^-$, $[\text{H}(\text{OEt}_2)]^+[\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_4]^-$, $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$, $\text{PhNMe}_2\text{HB}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_4$ and $\text{Ph}_3\text{CB}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_4$.

115. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 90 wherein the soluble metal precursor has the general formula MR_n , wherein M is a metal atom selected from the group consisting of a transition metal, a lanthanide metal or a main group metal, R is one or more solublizing ligands selected from the group consisting of mesityl and 2,4-petanedionate, and n ranges from about 2 to about 3.

116. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 90 wherein one or more of the metal-ligand compositions is screened for homogeneous catalytic activity.

117. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 116 wherein one or more of the metal-ligand compositions is screened for homogeneous catalytic activity in an olefin polymerization reaction.

118. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 90 wherein the polymerization reaction product is screened for a property of interest selected from the group consisting of electrical, thermal, mechanical, morphological, optical, magnetic or chemical.

119. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 90 wherein the polymerization reaction product is screened for a property of interest by a method selected from the group consisting of infrared spectroscopy, infrared imaging, liquid chromatography, light scattering, polymer structural testing, polymer melt flow testing, polymer property testing, Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy, thin layer chromatography, solid phase staining, rapid gel permeation chromatography, nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, depolarized light scattering, rapid thermal analysis, gas composition–mass spectrometry, thermal measurement, X-ray fluorescence, reactant consumption or reactant uptake, gravimetric measurement of product yield and liquid composition–mass spectrometry.

120. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 90 wherein the array comprises at least about 80 different ligands.

121. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 90 wherein the array comprises at least about 200 different ligands.

122. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 90 further comprising delivering a metal-binding ligand which is not bound to a solid support to the plurality of discrete reaction vessels to form a metal-ligand composition, the ligand being combined with a deprotonating agent.